BETH A. VRIONI 100 Abbott Park Road D-377, AP6A-1 Abbott Park, IL 60064-6008 t 847-938-7676 f 847-936-2623



Fax

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 16 2006

DATE:

October 16, 2006

TO:

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner James L. Swiger III

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX: FROM: 571-273-8300 Karen R. Smith

TOTAL PAGES:

7 (including cover)

COMMENTS:

Applicant(s): Landry, et al. Serial No.: 10/698,010 Filed: October 30, 2003

For: SPINAL STABILIZATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS USING MINIMALLY INVASIVE

SURGICAL PROCEDURE

Attorney Docket No.: 5259-10700US02

Examiner: James L. Swiger III

Group Art Unit: 3733

Please find enclosed:

1) Amendment and Response (5 pages), last page in duplicate

PLEASE CONFIRM SAFE DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGES AS INDICATED, PLEASE CALL KAREN @ (847) 935-0595

NOTICE: This communication is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, dissemination or distribution of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, and return the original message to us at the above address.



OCT 16 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Landry, et al.

Serial No.: 10/698,010

Filed: October 30, 2003

For: SPINAL STABLIZATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS USING MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Docket No.: 5259-10700US02

Examiner: Swiger III, James L.

Group Art Unit: 3733

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 CFR §1.8(a):

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via facsimile, said transmission to be completed before midnight Eastern time on the date shown below, addressed to the following recipient:

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner James L. Swiger III

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Recipient Telefax Number: (571) 273-8300

Date: October 16, 2006

Konen V.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 14, 2006, please amend the above-referenced application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.